

Donna M. Simpson



Donna M. Simpson, 77, formerly of Grinnell, died suddenly Friday, Nov. 30, 2012, at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City.

Funeral mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in West Liberty. Visitation will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Henderson-Barker Funeral Home in West Liberty, with a Christian wake service at 7 p.m. Burial will be in the North Prairie Cemetery, West Liberty. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.hendersonbarkerfuneralhome.com. Memorials may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church, West Liberty Community Center or West Liberty Fire and Rescue Unit.

Donna was born Sept. 26, 1935, in Grinnell, the daughter of Carl and Blanche Benson Olson. She graduated from Grinnell High School with the Class of 1952. On Feb. 5, 1955, she was united in marriage with James Alfred Simpson in Grinnell. The couple lived in several Iowa towns, due to Jim's work for the Rock Island Railroad, finally settling in West Liberty in 1965.

She was employed with Hargrave-McEleney Motors and preceeding dealerships in Iowa City for over 40 years as cashier, bookkeeper and then office manager, retiring in December 2000. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in West Liberty. For several years Donna volunteered at the West Liberty Senior Dining Center where she also was the Senior group representative for the Community Center's board of directors. She was an avid Iowa Hawkeye fan; enjoyed traveling, especially to Branson, Mo., and New York City, to see musical shows; and also loved cooking and puzzles.

Survivors include three children, Luann Hoffman of Hollywood, Fla., Randy Simpson of New Boston, Ill., and Karla Boruff of Illinois City, Ill.; five grandchildren; three great grandchildren; a brother Larry Olson of Algona; in-laws Tom Simpson and Barbara Schmidt, both of Grinnell; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and two brothers, La Verne Olson and Richard Olson.